

Claim Amendments

1. (currently amended) A measuring device ~~{7, 13, 14, 15, 32}~~ for measuring changes in at least one position of at least one body edge {5a} of a component {1, 3}, the measuring device comprising: ~~having~~ at least one sensor {9} reacting to the changes, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring device ~~{7, 13, 14, 15, 32}~~ has at least one light source {8}, at least one measuring edge {5} that is fixed in relation to the body edge {5a}, and at least one light {6} emanating from the light source {8}, it being possible for the measuring edge {5} to vary its position by comparison with the light {6} at least from an initial position, and a portion {6a} of the light {6} that has been changed in size by changes in the position by comparison with the initial position of the measuring edge(s) strikes the sensor {9} without impediment.

2. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring edge {5} is the body edge {5a}.

3. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the body edge {5a} delimits a variable passage {4, 37, 38, 39, 40} that passes through the component {1, 3} and through which the portion of the light {6} strikes the sensor {9}.

4. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ in the position of the measuring edge {5} varied from the initial position by comparison with the light {6} at the same time:

- a first portion of the light {6a} strikes the sensor {9} without impediment,
- and

- at least one second portion {6b} of the light {6} strikes at least the measuring edge {5},

and it being possible for the first portion {6a} and the second portion {6b} of the light {6} to be changed in size relative to one another by changes in the position of the measuring edge {5} from the initial position.

5. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed-in claim 4, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ in the position of the measuring edge {5} varied from the initial position by comparison with the light {6} at the same time:

- at least two of the second portions {6b} of the light {6} respectively strike the measuring edge {5} at another location,

it being possible for the first portion {6a} and at least one of the second portions {6b} of the light {6} to be changed in size relative to one another by deviations in the position of the measuring edge {5} from the initial position.

6. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed-in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the light source {8} and the sensor {9} are situated opposite one another and a portion {6b} of the light {6} strikes the measuring edge between the light source {8} and the sensor {9}.

7. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed-in claim 1, further comprising ~~characterized in that~~ a reflector {33} is situated opposite the light source {8}, the reflector {33} reflecting the light {6} at least intermittently and at least partially to the sensor {9}, and the light {6} striking the measuring edge {5} at least partially between the light source {8} and the reflector {33}.

8. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring device {13} has a first sensor {9} and at least a second sensor {17}, and in the position varied from the initial position of the measuring edge {5} by comparison with the light {6} at the same time:

- a first portion {6a} of the light strikes the first sensor {9} without impediment and in this case,
- at least one second portion {6} of the light {6} strikes at least the measuring edge {5},
- the first portion {6a} and the second portion {6b} of the light {6} being changed in size relative to one another by deviations in the position of the measuring edge {5} from the initial position, and
- the first portion {6a} and the second portion {6b} of the light {6} striking the second sensor {17} at least partially in a fashion equaling the initial state in size and thus independently of the changes in the position.

9. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 8, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring device {13} has a control device {43}, the control device {43} being connected to the second sensor {17} and the light source {8}.

10. (currently amended) The measuring device of as-claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring device {14} has at least one reference light source {23} with a reference light {44}, the reference light {44} equaling at least the light {6a} in an initial position of the measuring edge {5}, and in the position of the measuring edge {5} that has been changed relative to the initial position, at the same time:

- a first portion {6a} of the light {6} from the light source {8} strikes the

sensor {9} without impediment,

- at least one second portion {6b} of the light {6} from the light source {8} strikes at least the measuring edge {5}, and
- the first portion {6a} and the second portion {6b} are changed in size relative to one another by deviations in the position of the measuring edge {5} from the initial position, and
- the reference light {44}, unchanged in comparison to the initial position, of the reference light source {23}, strikes the sensor {9} in alternating sequence with the first portion {6a} of the light source {8}, changed relative to the initial position.

11. (currently amended) The measuring device of as claimed in claim 1, wherein 8, 9 or 10, ~~characterized in that~~ the measuring device {32} has at least one light guiding medium with the aid of which at least portions {6a, 6b} of the light {6} are guided into the measuring device {32}.

12. (currently amended) The measuring device of as claimed in claim 11, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the light guiding medium is in at least one fiber optics cable {34}.

13. (currently amended) The measuring device of as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the component {1, 3} is assigned to at least one rotary and/or linear bearing {35}.